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ONTARIO PROVINCIAL POLICE

Provincial Operations Intelligence Bureau

SITUATION REPORT

DATE: 2022-02-18

FILE NAME: Project HENDON

Report#: 047-2022

Event: Freedom Convoy/BearHug 2.0

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☒	Third Party Rule	This information cannot be used, duplicated or disseminated without approval from the author.

The information in this report is current to 2022-02-17 at 1230 hours.

The format of this Situation Report delineates between police information and information gathered through open sources. Media and social media information has been incorporated in this report towards developing all-source intelligence in support of providing greater context, and which may identify indicators, ideologies, and attitudes that could motivate subjects of interest and influence their behaviours.

OTTAWA: POLICE INFORMATION & OBSERVATIONS

Items in this section are presented in order of seriousness of the potential threat:

The OPP continues to be engaged in this initiative with resources on the ground providing real-time updates and observations to the National Capital Region Command Centre – Combined Intelligence Group as events unfold.

- The Ottawa Police Service (OPS) has commenced enforcement at the blockade. Arrests and the removal of vehicles are ongoing.

OTTAWA: OPEN SOURCE INFORMATION (Media and Social Media)

Items in this section are presented in order of seriousness of the potential threat:

- Open source research has identified the following:

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- Social media messaging in the name of THE REAL [REDACTED] of a purported list of towing companies cooperating with the police at the blockade. A subsequent message claimed to identify the location where towed vehicles would be stored.
- Social media messaging suggesting that more trucks are on their way to Ottawa in support of the blockade. One message is on the Twitter page for Randy HILLIER and encourages people to walk up to police officers in Ottawa and tell them that they protest the loss of freedom and democracy. Another urges people to go downtown Ottawa with strollers to make it appear as though they have small children with them to cast police in a negative light when they arrest them.
- An online video featuring a male who claims to be still in Ottawa and asking for support this weekend, particularly from families. He criticizes the government for deeming the protest illegal and the Chief of the Ottawa Police Service for not standing with Canadians.
- An online video by “RANTS” (PLAID ARMY) who claims that Prime Minister TRUDEAU wanted the resistance so that he could enact the “War Measures Act”. He claims that everything that the government is doing is “part of the plan”, including freezing bank accounts. He urges people to take all of their money out of their accounts before they are frozen, but the government will just switch to a digital currency and cash will be worthless. This is also part of “the plan”. He also says that this is the beginning, and that anyone who is released will just set up another blockade at the border. He claims that nobody in the House of Commons is “on your side”.

“RANTS” was previously reported in Project HENDON SITREP 023-2022 dated 2022-01-26 as commenting about driving a truck through a wall at Parliament Hill. Project HENDON knows RANTS as [REDACTED], an online streamer who has self-identified as a member of the DIAGOLON community. A DIAGOLON flag can be seen hanging behind him in this video.

- An online video featuring [REDACTED] who tells people to “hold the line” because help is coming. He tells people to stay in their trucks and lock their doors and claims that police actions are just posturing and the police are acting unlawfully because the Emergencies Act is not yet in place. He introduces “[REDACTED]” and “[REDACTED]” as the owners of “[REDACTED]” in Peterborough. “[REDACTED]” claims that they have been there working behind the scenes from the beginning. “[REDACTED]” also says that “when they push we shove”. Media reporting identifies [REDACTED] as the owners of [REDACTED] and as leaders in anti-lockdown events. The reporting also notes that [REDACTED] was ticketed numerous times for not complying with COVID-19-related public health orders.¹

¹ “Peterborough Public Health shuts down Peterburgers for ignoring COVID-19 safety rules”, *Peterborough Examiner* (2021-12-03), <https://www.thepeterboroughexaminer.com/news/peterborough-region/2021/12/03/peterborough-public-health-shuts-down-peterburgers-for-ignoring-covid-19-safety-rules.html> (accessed 2022-02-18)

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TORONTO: POLICE INFORMATION & OBSERVATIONS

- The Toronto Police Service (TPS) reports a possible protest in solidarity with Ottawa residents scheduled for 2022-02-20 and Toronto City Hall. TPS continues to monitor for potential upcoming protests.

TORONTO: OPEN SOURCE INFORMATION (Media and Social Media)

- TPS reports online messaging about [REDACTED], which may be assisting in towing vehicles from the Ottawa blockade. The messaging reportedly calls for false towing reports to be made in an effort to “spam” the company online.
- TPS continues to monitor for relevant open source information.

AMBASSADOR BRIDGE:

- The Ambassador Bridge remains open and traffic is moving normally.

BLUE WATER BRIDGE:

- The Blue Water Bridge is open with no protestors on site and traffic is moving normally.

PEACE BRIDGE:

- Police reporting indicates that a protest at the Peace Bridge is planned for 2022-02-19 and a possible slow roll on 2022-02-20.

INTERNATIONAL BRIDGE (CORNWALL):

- Police are monitoring for activity at the port of entry – no activity and little information to suggest that there could be a protest on the weekend.

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LANSDOWNE BRIDGE:

- Possible protest at the bridge on 2022-02-19.

NORTHWEST REGION:

- OPP reporting has identified a potential blockade at the Nipigon River Bridge scheduled for 2022-02-26.

ONTARIO: POLICE INFORMATION & OBSERVATIONS

- Peel Regional Police report that on the evening of 2022-02-17, two subjects attended the constituency office for Peter FONSECA, the Liberal Member of Parliament for Mississauga East – Cooksville. Security cameras recorded them placing empty jerry cans outside the office and taking pictures of the cans and themselves with a sign and flags. No damage was done to the office, which was closed at the time.

ONTARIO: OPEN SOURCE INFORMATION (Media and Social Media)

- No significant developments.

OTHER

- Open source research has identified a new fundraising campaign called BIG RIG ADOPTION. The account appears to have been established on 2022-02-11 and the amount raised as of 2022-02-18 is almost \$111,000. The account appears to be based in the US, and does not note whether the donations are recorded in CAD or USD. Social media messaging about the donation site has been shared on the MARINERS FOR FREEDOM Facebook page.
- The Freedom Convoy 2022 account with GiveSendGo amounts to \$9,655,377 USD. The Adopt A Trucker account has raised \$590,463 USD, an increase of about \$30 since yesterday.

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ASSESSMENT

The ideologies behind the freedom movement and the related protests will not disappear with the clearing of the blockade in Ottawa. The protestors are deeply rooted and committed to their beliefs and their cause, with some who have spoken or acted against them being subsequently targeted. Further, the Ottawa blockade is a symptom of a broader decentralized anti-government and anti-authority network that coalesced and mobilized as a result of the restrictions related to the pandemic.

Future protests and blockades are almost certain. Some protestors in Ottawa have clearly stated that the current actions are just the beginning. Police enforcement in Ottawa is likely to reinforce existing beliefs regarding government power and will not deter some individuals from organizing or participating in future protests. It is likely that lessons learned from Ottawa will be incorporated into planning for future protests. It is possible that future events may be planned off-line or on restricted online platforms that are difficult or impossible for police to monitor.

Critical infrastructure, such as transportation hubs and networks including roadways, railways, bridges, airports, ferry terminals, ports of entry, and maritime ports may be vulnerable to future protests, slow rolls or blockades.

A period of civil unrest is likely, with protestors employing "irregular warfare" tactics to stretch police resources, as well as passive resistance, such as sitting or lying across transportation routes. The possibility that an individual or entity could escalate to an act of mischief against critical infrastructure should not be discounted.

The invocation of the Emergencies Act and subsequent enforcement in Ottawa has likely increased the level of anger or resentment against the government and law enforcement amongst some protestors. Government facilities and assets such as buildings, public figures and elected officials at all levels of government could be targeted for protest, mischief, harassment, and, possibly, threats. Police officers may be targeted for harassment or threats. Other law enforcement assets, such as court buildings and correctional centres, could also be targeted by freedom movement supporters. Although the likelihood is low, employees of these facilities could also be at risk of harassment or threats.

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Appendix: Anticipated Events

OTTAWA			
CURRENT SITUATION - OTTAWA			
* see HENDON report			
ANTICIPATED EVENTS - OTTAWA			
DATE	TIME	NAME	COMMENTS
15 Feb 2022 to 18 Feb 2022	Various	Freedom Convoy 2022 Fort McMurray (Supply Convoy) 18 Feb: SSM-Sudbury- Ottawa	- Organizers appear to be [REDACTED] – 4,000 members in the Facebook group - Group of 4 vehicles consisting of a coach bus, motorhome and 2 pickup trucks travelling to Ottawa. - The group became separated from the bus due to possible mechanical issues. - Bus last observed east of Nipigon travelling eastbound on the Highway 11 corridor with the remaining group lagging approximately 350km behind the bus.
19-Feb-22	1100 hrs	[REDACTED] – singing for freedom	“Big Drum” will be in Ottawa Saturday at 1100 hrs - Singing for Freedom demonstration on the main stage [REDACTED] (aka Brian [REDACTED]) is a Pikwakanagan community member
19-Feb-22	U/K	Alberta Freedom Convoy 2022CA	- Attempts to fill a charter bus to Ottawa - Pickups in Red Deer, Calgary, Medicine Hat, Swift Current, Regina - Locations/timings to be confirmed - Unknown how many people are going - Information being exchanged between organizer & interested parties through Private Messaging

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TORONTO - QUEEN'S PARK			
CURRENT SITUATION - TORONTO			
* see HENDON report			
ANTICIPATED EVENTS - TORONTO			
DATE	TIME	NAME	COMMENTS
19-Feb-22	1200 hrs	The Line Canada	Calling for "all individuals and organizations that oppose mandatory vaccinations are encouraged to attend"
19-Feb-22	1500 hrs	KKKonvoyGoHome	Counter Action/Demo Banner Drop over the DVP DVP pedestrian bridge near 450 Broadview Ave 16 people responded: 3 going, 13 interested

WINDSOR - AMBASSADOR BRIDGE			
CURRENT SITUATION - WINDSOR - AMBASSADOR BRIDGE			
* see HENDON report			
ANTICIPATED EVENTS - WINDSOR - AMBASSADOR BRIDGE			
DATE	TIME	NAME	COMMENTS
19-Feb-22	1400 hrs	HOLD THE LINE	• Location: Great Canadian Flag @ Windsor Waterfront • "Windsor just delayed Ambassador Bridge traffic for a week, and Castreau declared martial law. Let's talk about that."

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NIAGARA FALLS / FORT ERIE PEACE BRIDGE			
CURRENT SITUATION - NIAGARA FALLS / FORT ERIE PEACE BRIDGE			
* see HENDON report			
ANTICIPATED EVENTS - NIAGARA FALLS / FORT ERIE PEACE BRIDGE			
DATE	TIME	NAME	COMMENTS
19-Feb-22	U/K	Niagara Peninsula Convoy 2022	"They have closed Sarnia and Windsor. The next step is the Peace Bridge/ Queenston-Lewiston slow roll/blockade." Indication is that it is a peaceful protest and no violence will be tolerated.
19-Feb-22	0900 hrs	Canada / USA Convoy 2022	Meet at Husky Truck Stop / 615 York Rd, Niagara on the Lake To Fort Erie Peace Bridge / Peaceful Assembly for Freedom
19-Feb-22	0930 hrs	OFFICIAL Freedom Canada Convoy 2022	Meeting at 815 York Road, Niagara on the Lake Travelling to the Peace Bridge to close it down
19-Feb-22	1300 hrs	Niagara Slow Roll	1300 hrs slow-roll - Protesters plan to join the protest at the Peace Bridge

QUEENSTON-LEWISTON BRIDGE (NIAGARA ON THE LAKE)			
CURRENT SITUATION - QUEENSTON-LEWISTON BRIDGE			
* see HENDON report			
ANTICIPATED EVENTS - QUEENSTON-LEWISTON BRIDGE			
DATE	TIME	NAME	COMMENTS
19-Feb-22	U/K	Niagara Peninsula Convoy 2022	"Niagara Peninsula Convoy 2022" group with mention of a potential convoy to take the Queenston-Lewiston Bridge on Feb 19th 2022. No further information.

CORNWALL POE			
CURRENT SITUATION - CORNWALL POE			
* see HENDON report			
ANTICIPATED EVENTS - CORNWALL POE			
DATE	TIME	NAME	COMMENTS
19-Feb-22	U/K	U/K	Cornwall PS advising of possible protest on 19 Feb 22

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OTHER AREAS / EVENTS			
OTHER EVENTS - SATURDAY 19 FEBRUARY 2022			
TIME	LOCATION	NAME	COMMENTS
0545 hrs	St. Jerome QC	Convoi de St-Jerome vers Ottawa	Convoy gathering at 0545 hrs and departing 0630 hrs from St. Jerome to Ottawa 25 participants
0630 hrs	Burlington & Toronto	Bus from Toronto to Ottawa "Freedombus"	Boarding at 0630 hrs for 0700 hrs departure from: Aldershot GO (Burlington) Islington Subway (Etobicoke) Victoria Park Subway (Scarborough) Cost: \$60/person
0800 hrs	Haldimand-Norfolk	Freedom Across Canada Together	"local awareness exercise for Canada" 110 people responded: 28 going, 82 interested
1100 hrs	Kawartha Lakes to Lindsay	Kawartha Lakes Convoy	Meeting at 1000 hrs at Redstone Quarry located at 1128 County Road 49 Depart 1100 hrs Route: Bobcaygeon-Fenelon Falls-Lindsay-Victoria Park to join Rise Up Kawartha
1100 hrs	Huntsville & Bracebridge	Ontario Protests and Freedom to Assemble	1100 hrs gathering at Huntsville Mall 1400 hrs gathering at Bracebridge Memorial Park
1200 hrs	Barrie	Support Convoy for Freedom Barrie	Meeting at 1030 hrs at 555 Bayview Dr (Sadlon Arena) Departure 1200 hrs
1400 hrs	Hamilton	Freedom of Choice Rally	Estimate 50-200 persons attending Michael BATOR, PPC party candidate likely to attend and deliver a speech Event from 1400 hrs to 1600 hrs

OTHER EVENTS - SUNDAY 20 FEBRUARY 2022			
TIME	LOCATION	NAME	COMMENTS
0630 HRS	Dunville ON	Support for Ottawa Freedom Convoy	Bus trip planned from Dunnville Departure at 0630 hrs from Julias Bistro Estimated arrival in Ottawa at 1130 hrs Return to Dunville, departs Ottawa at 1700 hrs Cost: \$65/person

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OTHER EVENTS - SUNDAY 20 FEBRUARY 2022			
TIME	LOCATION	NAME	COMMENTS
Week of 21 Feb 2022	Canada	FREEDOM WEEK	Week of 21 Feb 2022 Organizers associated to the Ottawa truck convoy are encouraging individuals to participate in a week of civil disobedience

OTHER EVENTS - SATURDAY 26 FEBRUARY 2022			
TIME	LOCATION	NAME	COMMENTS
1000 hrs	Peterborough	Ontario Protests and Freedom to Assemble	Peterborough Slow Roll Meeting at Metro parking lot at 1154 Chemong Rd, Peterborough
U/K	Nipigon	Nipigon Bridge POE	Protest was scheduled for 13 Feb 2022 has been rescheduled for 26 Feb 2022

OTHER EVENTS - UNKNOWN DATE			
TIME	LOCATION	NAME	COMMENTS
U/K	Thunder Bay	Canada Unity - Operation BearHug Canada	"ThunderBay officially joined in the fun and has launched #BearHugCanada today... Strategic bridges, border crossings - 1000 tractors/farmers going to a border crossing with 5000 semis and personal vehicles." Post states it "has the potential of being another Windsor or Coutes".

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Date:	18 February 2022	

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